

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, May 12, 2011, the House stands in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 5 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

During the recess, beginning at 10:59 a.m., the following proceedings were had:

JOINT MEETING TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY BINYAMIN NETANYAHU, PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL

The Speaker of the House presided.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms, Mrs. Kerri Hanley, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort His Excellency Binyamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel, into the Chamber:

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR);

The gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS);

The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE);

The gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER);

The gentlewoman from South Dakota (Mrs. NOEM);

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT);

The gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN);

The gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER);

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM);

The gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN);

The gentleman from California (Mr. MCKEON);

The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT);

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI);

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER);

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN);

The gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL);

The gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN);

The gentleman from New York (Mr. ACKERMAN);

The gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN);

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN);

The gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY);

The gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY);

The gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY);

The gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF);

The gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCHWARTZ);

The gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ); and

The gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH).

The VICE PRESIDENT. The President of the Senate, at the direction of that body, appoints the following Senators as members of the committee on the part of the Senate to escort His Excellency Binyamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel, into the House Chamber:

The Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID);

The Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN);

The Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY);

The Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN);

The Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY);

The Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL);

The Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN);

The Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN);

The Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER);

The Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL);

The Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL);

The Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO);

The Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE);

The Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN);

The Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR); and

The Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH).

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, Her Excellency Faida Mitifu, Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for her.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

The Members of the Cabinet of the President of the United States entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

At 11 o'clock and 19 minutes a.m., the Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced His Excellency Binyamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel.

The Prime Minister of Israel, escorted by the committee of Senators and Representatives, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and stood at the Clerk's desk.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The SPEAKER. Members of Congress, I have the high privilege and the distinct honor of presenting to you His Excellency Binyamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

Prime Minister NETANYAHU. Vice President BIDEN, Speaker BOEHNER, distinguished Senators, Members of the House, honored guests, I am deeply moved by this warm welcome, and I am deeply honored that you've given me the opportunity to address Congress a second time.

Mr. Vice President, do you remember the time that we were the new kids in town? And I do see a lot of old friends here, and I see a lot of new friends of Israel here as well, Democrats and Republicans alike.

Israel has no better friend than America, and America has no better friend than Israel. We stand together to defend democracy. We stand together to advance peace. We stand together to fight terrorism.

Congratulations, America. Congratulations, Mr. President. You got bin Laden. Good riddance.

In an unstable Middle East, Israel is the one anchor of stability. In a region of shifting alliances, Israel is America's unwavering ally. Israel has always been pro-American. Israel will always be pro-American.

My friends, you don't need to do nation-building in Israel; we're already built. You don't need to export democracy to Israel; we've already got it. And you don't need to send American troops to Israel; we defend ourselves. You've been very generous in giving us tools to do the job of defending Israel on our own.

Thank you all; and thank you, President Obama, for your steadfast commitment to Israel's security. I know economic times are tough. I deeply appreciate this.

Some of you have been telling me that your belief has been reaffirmed in recent months that support for Israel's security is a wise investment in our common future, for an epic battle is now underway in the Middle East between tyranny and freedom. A great convulsion is shaking the Earth from the Khyber Pass to the Straits of Gibraltar—the tremors of shattered states, their toppled governments—and we can all see that the ground is still shifting.

Now, this historic moment holds the promise of a new dawn of freedom and opportunity. There are millions of young people out there who are determined to change their future. We all look at them. They muster courage. They risk their lives. They demand dignity. They desire liberty. These extraordinary scenes in Tunis and Cairo evoke those of Berlin and Prague in 1989.

I take it as a badge of honor—and so should you—that in our free societies you can have protests. You can't have these protests in the farcical parliaments in Tehran or in Tripoli. This

is real democracy. So, as we share the hopes of these young people throughout the Middle East and Iran that they'll be able to do what that young woman just did—I think she was young. I couldn't see quite that far—we must also remember that those hopes could be snuffed out as they were in Tehran in 1979. You remember what happened then. The brief democratic spring in Tehran was cut short by a ferocious and unforgiving tyranny, and it is this same tyranny that smothered Lebanon's democratic Cedar Revolution and inflicted on that long-suffering country the medieval rule of Hezbollah.

So, today, the Middle East stands at a fateful crossroads; and like all of you, I pray that the peoples of the region choose the path less traveled—the path of liberty. No one knows what this path consists of better than you—nobody. This path of liberty is not paved by elections alone. It is paved when governments permit protests in town squares, when limits are placed on the powers of rulers, when judges are beholden to laws and not men, and when human rights can not be crushed by tribal loyalties or mob rule.

Israel has always embraced this path in a Middle East that has long rejected it. In a region where women are stoned, gays are hanged, Christians are persecuted, Israel stands out. It is different.

There was a great English writer in the 19th century, George Eliot. It's a "she." It was a pseudonym in those days. George Eliot predicted over a century ago that, once established, the Jewish state will shine like a bright star of freedom amid the despotisms of the East.

Well, she was right.

We have a free press, independent courts, an open economy, rambunctious parliamentary debates. Now, don't laugh. Ah, you see, you think you're tough on one another here in Congress. Come spend a day in the Knesset. Be my guest.

Courageous Arab protesters are now struggling to secure these very same rights for their peoples, for their societies. We are proud in Israel that over 1 million Arab citizens of Israel have been enjoying these rights for decades. Of the 300 million Arabs in the Middle East and North Africa, only Israel's Arab citizens enjoy real democratic rights. Now, I want you to stop for a second and think about that. Of those 300 million Arabs, less than one-half of 1 percent are truly free, and they're all citizens of Israel.

The startling fact reveals a basic truth: Israel is not what is wrong about the Middle East. Israel is what is right about the Middle East. Israel fully supports the desire of Arab peoples in our region to live freely. We long for the day when Israel will be one of many real democracies in the Middle East.

Fifteen years ago, I stood at this very podium—by the way, it hasn't changed. I stood here, and I said that

democracy must start to take root in the Arab world. Well, it has begun to take root, and this beginning holds the promise of a brilliant future of peace and prosperity because I believe that a Middle East that is genuinely democratic will be a Middle East truly of peace; but while we hope for the best and while we work for the best, we must also recognize that powerful forces oppose this future.

They oppose modernity.

They oppose democracy.

They oppose peace.

Foremost among these forces is Iran. The tyranny in Tehran brutalizes its own people. It supports attacks against American troops in Afghanistan and in Iraq. It subjugates Lebanon and Gaza. It sponsors terror worldwide.

When I last stood here, I spoke of the consequences of Iran's developing nuclear weapons. Now time is running out. The hinge of history may soon turn, for the greatest danger of all could soon be upon us—a militant Islamic regime armed with nuclear weapons.

Militant Islam threatens the world.

It threatens Islam.

Now, I have no doubt—I am absolutely convinced—that it will ultimately be defeated. I believe it will eventually succumb to the forces of freedom and progress. It depends on cloistering young minds for a given number of years, and the process of opening up information will ultimately defeat this movement; but like other fanaticisms that were doomed to fail, militant Islam could exact an horrific price from all of us before its eventual demise. A nuclear-armed Iran would ignite a nuclear arms race in the Middle East. It would give terrorists a nuclear umbrella. It would make the nightmare of nuclear terrorism a clear and present danger throughout the world.

You see, I want you to understand what this means because, if we don't stop it, it is coming. They could put a bomb anywhere. They could put it in a missile. They're working on missiles that could reach this city. They could put it on a ship, inside a container, that could reach every port. They could eventually put it in a suitcase or in a subway.

Now, the threat to my country cannot be overstated. Those who dismiss it are sticking their heads in the sand. In less than seven decades, after 6 million Jews were murdered, Iran's leaders deny the Holocaust of the Jewish people while calling for the annihilation of the Jewish state. Leaders who spew such venom should be banned from every respectable forum on the planet.

But there is something that makes the outrage even greater. Do you know what that is? It is the lack of outrage because, in much of the international community, the calls for our destruction are met with utter silence. It's even worse because there are many who rush to condemn Israel for defending itself against Iran's terror proxies.

Not you. Not America. You've acted differently. You've condemned the Ira-

nian regime for its genocidal aims. You've passed tough sanctions against Iran. History will salute you, America.

President Obama has said that the United States is determined to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons. The President successfully led the Security Council at the U.N. to adopt sanctions against Iran. You in Congress passed even tougher sanctions. Now, those words and these are vitally important; yet the Ayatollah regime briefly suspended its nuclear weapons program only once, in 2003, when it feared the possibility of military action. In that same year, Muammar Qadhafi gave up his nuclear weapons program and for the same reason.

The more Iran believes that all options are on the table, the less the chance of confrontation; and this is why I ask you to continue to send an unequivocal message: that America will never permit Iran to develop nuclear weapons.

Now, as for Israel, if history has taught the Jewish people anything, it is that we must take calls for our destruction seriously. We are a nation that rose from the ashes of the Holocaust. When we say "never again," we mean never again. Israel always reserves the right to defend itself.

My friends, while Israel will be ever vigilant in its defense, we will never give up our quest for peace. I guess we will give it up when we achieve it, because we want peace, because we need peace. Now, we've achieved historic peace agreements with Egypt and Jordan, and these have held up for decades.

I remember what it was like before we had peace. I was nearly killed in a firefight inside the Suez Canal. I mean that literally—inside the Suez Canal. I was going down to the bottom, with a 40-pound ammunition pack on my back, and somebody reached out to grab me, and they're still looking for the guy who did such a stupid thing. I was nearly killed there. I remember battling terrorists along both banks of the Jordan.

Too many Israelis have lost loved ones, and I know their grief. I lost my brother. So no one in Israel wants a return to those terrible days. The peace with Egypt and Jordan has long served as an anchor of stability and peace in the heart of the Middle East, and this peace should be bolstered by economic and political support to all those who remain committed to peace.

The peace agreements between Israel and Egypt and Israel and Jordan are vital, but they are not enough. We must also find a way to forge a lasting peace with the Palestinians.

Two years ago, I publicly committed to a solution of two states for two peoples—a Palestinian state alongside a Jewish state. I am willing to make painful compromises to achieve this historic peace. As the leader of Israel, it is my responsibility to lead my people to peace. Now, this is not easy for me. It's not easy because I recognize

that, in a genuine peace, we will be required to give up parts of the ancestral Jewish homeland. You have to understand this:

In Judea-Samaria, the Jewish people are not foreign occupiers. We're not the British in India. We're not the Belgians in the Congo. This is the land of our forefathers—the land of Israel—to which Abraham brought the idea of one God, where David set out to confront Goliath, and where Isaiah saw a vision of eternal peace. No distortion of history—and boy, am I reading a lot of distortions of history lately, old and new. No distortion of history can deny the 4,000-year-old bond between the Jewish people and the Jewish land.

But there is another truth.

The Palestinians share this small land with us. We seek a peace in which they will be neither Israel's subjects nor its citizens. They should enjoy a national life of dignity as a free, viable and independent people, living in their own state. They should enjoy a prosperous economy where their creativity and initiative can flourish. Now, we've already seen the beginnings of what is possible. In the last 2 years, the Palestinians have begun to build a better life for themselves.

By the way, Prime Minister Fayyad has led this effort on their part, and I wish him a speedy recovery from his recent operation.

On our side, we've helped the Palestinian economic growth by removing hundreds of barriers and roadblocks to the free flow of goods and people, and the results have been nothing short of remarkable. The Palestinian economy is booming—it is growing by more than 10 percent a year—and Palestinian cities, they look very different today than what they looked like just a few years ago. They have shopping malls, movie theaters, restaurants, banks. They even have e-businesses, but you can't see that when you visit them.

That's what they have—it's a great change—and all of this is happening without peace. So imagine what could happen with peace. Peace would herald a new day for both our peoples, and it could also make the dream of a broader Arab-Israeli peace a realistic possibility.

So now here is the question. You've got to ask it:

If the benefits of peace with the Palestinians are so clear, why has peace eluded us? All six Israeli Prime Ministers since the signing of the Oslo Accords agreed to establish a Palestinian state, myself included.

So why has peace not been achieved? Because so far the Palestinians have been unwilling to accept a Palestinian state if it means accepting a Jewish state alongside it. You see, our conflict has never been about the establishment of a Palestinian state. It has always been about the existence of the Jewish state. This is what this conflict is about.

In 1947, the U.N. voted to partition the land into a Jewish state and an

Arab state. The Jews said yes. The Palestinians said no. In recent years, the Palestinians twice refused generous offers by Israeli Prime Ministers to establish a Palestinian state on virtually all the territory won by Israel in the Six-Day War. They were simply unwilling to end the conflict and—I regret to say this—they continue to educate their children to hate. They continue to name public squares after terrorists; and worst of all, they continue to perpetuate the fantasy that Israel will one day be flooded by the descendants of Palestinian refugees.

My friends, this must come to an end.

President Abbas must do what I have done—and I told you it wasn't easy for me. I stood before my people, and I said: I will accept a Palestinian state. It is time for President Abbas to stand before his people and say: I will accept a Jewish state.

Those six words will change history.

They will make it clear to the Palestinians that this conflict must come to an end, that they're not building a Palestinian state to continue the conflict with Israel but to end it, and those six words will convince the people of Israel that they have a true partner for peace.

With such a partner, the Israeli people will be prepared to make a far-reaching compromise. I will be prepared to make a far-reaching compromise. This compromise must reflect the dramatic demographic changes that have occurred since 1967. The vast majority of the 650,000 Israelis who live beyond the 1967 lines reside in neighborhoods and suburbs of Jerusalem and Greater Tel Aviv. Now, these areas are densely populated, but they are geographically quite small; and under any realistic peace agreement, these areas, as well as other places of critical strategic and national importance, will be incorporated into the final borders of Israel. The status of the settlements will be decided only in negotiations; but we must also be honest, so I am saying today something that should be said publicly by all those who are serious about peace:

In any real peace agreement, in any peace agreement that ends the conflict, some settlements will end up beyond Israel's borders. Now, the precise delineation of those borders must be negotiated. We will be generous about the size of the future Palestinian state; but as President Obama said, the border will be different than the one that existed on June 4, 1967. Israel will not return to the indefensible boundaries of 1967.

I want to be very clear on this point: Israel will be generous on the size of a Palestinian state, but we will be very firm on where we put the border with it. This is an important principle and shouldn't be lost.

We recognize that a Palestinian state must be big enough to be viable, to be independent, to be prosperous. All of you and the President, too, have re-

ferred to Israel as the homeland of the Jewish people just as you've been talking about a future Palestinian state as the homeland of the Palestinian people. Jews from around the world have a right to emigrate to the one and only Jewish state, and the Palestinians from around the world should have a right to emigrate, if they so choose, to a Palestinian state.

Here is what this means: it means that the Palestinian refugee problem will be resolved outside the borders of Israel. Everybody knows this. It is time to say it, and it is important.

And, as for Jerusalem, only a democratic Israel has protected the freedom of worship for all faiths in the city. Throughout the millennial history of the Jewish capital, the only time that Jews, Christians and Muslims could worship freely, could have unfettered access to their holy sites has been during Israel's sovereignty over Jerusalem. Jerusalem must never again be divided. Jerusalem must remain the united capital of Israel.

I know this is a difficult issue for Palestinians, but I believe that with creativity and with goodwill a solution can be found. So this is the peace I plan to forge with a Palestinian partner committed to peace; but you know very well that, in the Middle East, the only peace that will hold is the peace you can defend, so peace must be anchored in security.

In recent years, Israel withdrew from south Lebanon and from Gaza. We thought we'd get peace. That's not what we got. We got 12,000 rockets fired from those areas on our cities, on our children by Hezbollah and Hamas. The U.N. peacekeepers in Lebanon, they failed to prevent the smuggling of this weaponry. The European observers in Gaza, they evaporated overnight. So, if Israel simply walked out of the territories, the flow of weapons into a future Palestinian state would be unchecked, and missiles fired from it could reach virtually every home in Israel in less than a minute.

I want you to think about that, too. Imagine there's a siren going on now and that we have less than 60 seconds to find shelter from an incoming rocket. Would you live that way? Do you think anybody can live that way? Well, we are not going to live that way either. The truth is that Israel needs unique security arrangements because of its unique size. It's one of the smallest countries in the world.

Mr. Vice President, I'll grant you this, it's bigger than Delaware. It's even bigger than Rhode Island, but that's about it. Israel on the 1967 lines would be half the width of the Washington beltway. Now, here is a bit of nostalgia. I came to Washington 30 years ago as a young diplomat. It took me a while, but I finally figured it out. There is an America beyond the beltway, but Israel on the 1967 lines would be only 9 miles wide. So much for strategic depth.

So it is therefore vital—absolutely vital—that a Palestinian state be fully

demilitarized; and it is vital—absolutely vital—that Israel maintain a long-term military presence along the Jordan River. Solid security arrangements on the ground are necessary not only to protect the peace; they are necessary to protect Israel in case the peace unravels because, in our unstable region, no one can guarantee that our peace partners today will be there tomorrow.

And, my friends, when I say tomorrow, I don't mean some distant time in the future. I mean tomorrow.

Peace can only be achieved around a negotiating table. The Palestinian attempt to impose a settlement through the United Nations will not bring peace. It should be forcefully opposed by all those who want to see this conflict end. I appreciate the President's clear position on this issue. Peace can not be imposed. It must be negotiated; but peace can only be negotiated with partners committed to peace, and Hamas is not a partner for peace. Hamas remains committed to Israel's destruction and to terrorism. They have a charter. That charter not only calls for the obliteration of Israel. It says: kill the Jews everywhere you find them. Hamas' leader condemned the killing of Osama bin Laden and praised him as a holy warrior.

Now, again, I want to make this clear: Israel is prepared to sit down today and negotiate peace with the Palestinian Authority. I believe we can fashion a brilliant future for our children, but Israel will not negotiate with a Palestinian Government backed by the Palestinian version of al Qaeda.

That we will not do.

So I say to President Abbas: tear up your pact with Hamas. Sit down and negotiate. Make peace with the Jewish state. If you do, I promise you this: Israel will not be the last country to welcome a Palestinian state as a new member of the United Nations; it will be the first to do so.

My friends, the momentous trials of the last century and the unfolding events of this century attest to the decisive role of the United States in defending peace and advancing freedom. Providence entrusted the United States to be the guardian of liberty. All people who cherish freedom owe a profound debt of gratitude to your great Nation. Among the most grateful nations is my nation—the people of Israel—who fought for their liberty and survival against impossible odds in ancient and modern times alike.

I speak on behalf of the Jewish people and the Jewish state when I say to you, representatives of America: thank you. Thank you. Thank you for your unwavering support for Israel. Thank you for ensuring that the flame of freedom burns bright throughout the world.

May God bless all of you, and may God forever bless the United States of America.

[Applause, the Members rising.]

At 12 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m., His Excellency Binyamin Netanyahu,

Prime Minister of Israel, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The Members of the President's Cabinet;

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

JOINT MEETING DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The purpose of the joint meeting having been completed, the Chair declares the joint meeting of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, at 12 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m., the joint meeting of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

The SPEAKER. The House will continue in recess until 12:45 p.m.

□ 1245

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) at 12 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches from each side of the aisle.

REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE PETER FRELINGHUYSEN

(Mr. SMITH of New Jersey asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise with sadness to inform the House of the passing late yesterday afternoon of one of the longest living former Members of the House, Peter H.B. Frelinghuysen. Congressman Frelinghuysen served in this House with effectiveness and distinction and honor between 1953 and 1975.

Peter Hood Ballantine Frelinghuysen was born in New York City in 1916. After graduating from Princeton University and then Yale School of Law, he served in the Office of Naval Intelligence during World War II. He was elected as a Republican to the 83rd Congress.

When he first entered Congress, he served on the Education and Labor Committee, and after that as ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee in the early 1970s. After being elected to 10 successive terms in Congress, he retired in 1975.

Of course, all of my colleagues know that Peter's son, RODNEY, our distinguished colleague here in the House, is now in mourning, as is the rest of the

family. So on this sad day, I would invite all of my colleagues to join me in extending to RODNEY and his brothers, Frederick and Peter, and his sisters, Beatrice and Adaline, and their families, our deepest and most profound condolences.

Peter Hood Ballantine Frelinghuysen was proud of his work in the House. He was loved by the people of New Jersey, and we thank him for his extraordinary legacy of service.

PROTECT MEDICARE FOR AMERICA'S SENIORS

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, health care is a right, not a privilege. We made a promise to our seniors that they will have health care when they retire, that they will not have to withdraw away as they age.

But Republicans have broken that promise. Republicans, by passing the Ryan budget, believe that seniors should fend for themselves, that America should not honor the bargain made with its seniors.

It's simple, Mr. Speaker. Republicans don't like Medicare. I am glad this new majority is showing its true colors. And it is no surprise that Americans don't like this position. They didn't like it when they tried to privatize Social Security, and they don't like the Republican plan to voucherize Medicare.

Republicans would rather break this promise for their partisan, ideological crusade. In contrast, Democrats stand with America's seniors. We believe America should keep its promise to America's seniors. We believe America's seniors deserve better.

Support Medicare.

REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE PETER FRELINGHUYSEN

(Mr. BASS of New Hampshire asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BASS of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, yesterday America lost a great public servant, a great friend of the State of New Jersey, the father of one of my—if not my best friend in Congress, a friend of my family's, and just a wonderful guy.

Mr. Frelinghuysen—as I knew him, Peter Frelinghuysen—served in the Congress, as my friend from New Jersey just mentioned, from 1953 to 1975. He was the second or third oldest former Member of Congress. Now my father, who is 98, is the oldest former Member of Congress. Our families grew up together. We grew up in the spirit of public service, of good friendship, of bipartisanship, and of action.

I remember Mr. Frelinghuysen so well as a child, bringing us around here in the Chamber and around Capitol